

## BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerold MAHLER, et al  
Serial No. : 09/319,126  
Filed : August 23, 1999  
For : METHOD FOR STOCKING AND PRESERVING  
GREEN ROUND WOOD AND SAWN TIMBER  
Group Art Unit : 1744  
Examiner : Elizabeth McKane

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

### DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Sir:

Dr. Gerold Mahler and Thomas Maier hereby declare that materials disclosed by Chase et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,431,061 in column 2, lines 16-22, for example, along with the disclosed sealing means, including the "cocoon" discussed in column 2, lines 28-30, do not achieve the claimed oxygen content of 0.1 % volume. This is because the "cocoon" of Chase et al. is not absolutely air-tight.

Dr. Gerold Mahler and Thomas Maier further declare that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true and that all statements made on

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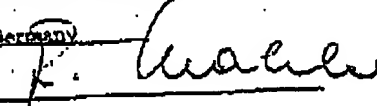
Information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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